आयातित कपास का वितरण

2058. **श्री रामसिंह राठवा :** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार आयातित कपास को बुनकर-समूहों के माध्यम से वितरित करने पर विचार कर रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) से (ग) पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान सरकार ने कपास का आयात नहीं किया है। इसलिए बुनकर समूहों के जरिये आयातित कपास के वितरण का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Improvement in the Quality of Silk Products

2059. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the major fair on Textiles and Fabrics held recently in Frankfurt;

(b) if so, what are the results thereof;

(c) what has been the role of Indian Export Promotion Council in increasing exports of silk items from India; and

(d) what steps have been taken to improve the quality and range of silk products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council had directly participated in the Interstoff Trade Fair held at Frankfurt during April, 1993. The generic promotion stall of the Council distributed publicity materials brought out by the Council and used the occasion to promote Council's Trade Fair 'Resham India" scheduled to be held during October, 1993. Besides, the participation has brought in many orders.

(c) The main activities being undertaken by the Council to promote export of silk items include the organisation of participation of Indian silk exporters in International Trade Fairs, sponsoring of Sales-cum-Study Tours, organisation of "Resham India', publicity of Indian silk products and dissemination of overseas trade enquiries/information on latest fashion trends etc. among the member exporters.

(d) In order to improve the quality of Indian silk yarn, a World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project is being implemented in 17 States of the country. For improving the range of silk products, the Council, thiough its periodical publications, provides information to the exporters on overseas demand and the latest fashion trends.

2060. *[Transferred to 12th August,* 1993.]

Condition of Weavers of Banarsi Sarees

2061. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the lot of workers engaged in weaving of Banarsi Sarees is very pathetic;

(b) whether it is also a fact that child labour is also involved in the manufacturing of these sarees;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government propose to uplift the well being of these workers; and

(d) if so, details of the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) There is no report about decline in the living conditions of handloom weavers in Varanasi.

(b) The occupation of handloom weaving is almost universally a household activity and involves the assistance of children in some cases.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government released assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh in 1992-93 for the welfare of the weavers of Uttar Pradesh State under Worksfoed-cum-Housing Scheme, Thrift Fund Scheme, Group Insurance Scheme. Health Package Scheme, Margin Money for Destitute Weavers' Scheme, Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme, Project Package Scheme, Market Development Assistance Scheme and Janata Cloth Scheme.

Voluntary Retirement of Textile Workers

2062. SHRI KAILASH NARAIN SARANG: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to the effect that workers of N.T.C. Mills seeking voluntary retirement should be given gratuity at the rate of one and a half month's wages for every year of service under N.R.F. scheme;

(b) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh have requested the Central Government that workers belonging to other textile mills in the State should also be given gratuity at the rate referred in part (a) above on the pattern of the benefit being given to the workers of N.T.C. mills and provision to that effect may be made in the N.R.F. scheme; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) The Voluntary Retirement Scheme applicable in NTC Mills provides for payment of exgratia amount equivalent $1^{1/2}$ months emoluments for each completed year of service or monthly emoluments at the time of voluntary retirement multiplied by remaining months of service before normal date of retirement, whichever lower.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Such requests have to be considered by the Nodal Ministry within the framework of guidelines of the National Renewal Fund.

हथकरघा विकास कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत कल्याण योजनाएं

2063. **चौधरी हरमोहन सिंह** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री 27 अप्रेल 1993 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 228 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश के आदिवासी बहुल और पिछड़े जिलों के लिए हथकरघा विकास कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत कोई कल्याण-योजनाएं बनाई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और इन योजनाओं को कब तक कार्यान्वित किये जाने की सम्भावना है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

वस्त्र मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : (क) हथकरघा क्षेत्र में संचालित सभी योजनाएं उत्तर प्रदेश के जन जातीय बाहुल्य क्षेत्र और पिछडे जिलों के लिए भी उपलब्ध हैं।

(ख) हथकरघा बुनकरों के लिए उपलब्ध कल्याणकारी योजनाओं में कार्यशाला सह-आवास योजना, समूह बीमा योजना, स्वास्थ्य पैकेज योजना और शिफ्ट फंड योजना शामिल हैं। ये योजनाएं चालू योजनाएं हैं और निरन्तर आधार पर कार्यान्वित की जाती है।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।